

MAR 1952 51-4C

CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1

25X1 COUNTRY Egypt; GDR

25X1 SUBJECT Military - Treaty, munitions, training army aid

HOW  
PUBLISHED Daily newspaper

DATE DIST. 2 Apr 1953

WHERE  
PUBLISHED Beirut

NO. OF PAGES 1

DATE  
PUBLISHED 18 Feb 1953

LANGUAGE Arabic

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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SECRET MILITARY TREATY  
BETWEEN EGYPT AND THE GDR

[Comment: The Beirut daily newspaper ad-Dustur of 18 February 1953 carried the following news item on a report secret agreement signed between Egypt and the East German government.]

Bonn (French Press Agency) 17 February 1953 -- Informed circles in Bonn, with connections in the GDR, revealed that a secret military agreement was concluded in Cairo on 7 January 1953 between representatives of the Egyptian government and those of the GDR. The agreement requires East Germany to supply Egypt with the following weapons: 80,000 rifles of the T51 type, made by the "Sohol" [approximation from Arabic possibly Suh] munitions works in East Germany; 300 anti-tank guns of the 75 millimeter and 80 millimeter type, made by Rhine Metals Company [possibly Rheinmetall-Borsig, now called SAG Avtovelo]. The agreement also stipulates that the Egyptian Army be trained in the use of these weapons by a military mission to be composed of 80 [German] officers trained by the Soviet Army.

It was also understood that despite the fact that the agreement was basically military, it would also deal with diplomatic and economic issues. The agreement, therefore, includes a commercial clause for the exchange of goods in the amount of 2 million dollars and a clause for the exchange of diplomatic missions between Egypt and the GDR.

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